UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO.: 1:23-CV- 23763

ELISABET	` PRINCIPE,
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Plaintiff,

VS.

NOMI HEALTH, INC., SBP STAFFING AND RECRUITING LLC, SB PORT VENTURES LLC, and TRIXIE BELO-OSAGIE,

Defendant	s.	

COMPLAINT FOR FLSA OVERTIME WAGE VIOLATION(S)

Plaintiff, Elisabet Principe, through her undersigned counsel and sue Defendants, NoMi Health, Inc., SBP Staffing and Recruiting LLC, SB Port Ventures LLC, and Trixie Belo-Osagi, for unpaid/underpaid overtime wages as follows:

Parties, Jurisdiction, and Venue

- 1. **Plaintiff, Elisabet Principe**, was and is a *sui juris* resident of Miami-Dade County, Florida, at all times material.
- 2. Plaintiff was an hourly employee of Defendants, as the term "employee" is defined by 29 U.S.C. §203(e).
 - 3. Plaintiff was a non-exempt employee of the Defendants.
 - 4. Plaintiff consents to participate in this lawsuit.

5. **Defendant, NoMi Health, Inc. ("Nomi")**, is a foreign for-profit corporation

authorized to conduct its business in Florida and is sui juris. Nomi conducted its healthcare testing

and treatment business in numerous locations, including in this District, at all times material.

6. Defendant, SBP Staffing and Recruiting LLC ("SBP Staffing"), is a

Florida limited liability company authorized to conduct its business in Florida and is sui juris.

Defendant has conducted its medical staffing service business in this District, at all times material.

7. **Defendant, SB Port Ventures LLC ("SBP")**, is a Florida limited liability

company authorized to conduct its business in Florida and is sui juris. Defendant has conducted its

medical staffing service business in this District, at all times material.

8. **Defendant, Trixie Belo-Osagie**, was at all times material an

owner/officer/director/manager of SBP Stafing and SBP, for the time period relevant to this

lawsuit. She ran their day-to-day operations, directly/indirectly supervised Plaintiff, was

responsible for all operational decisions, and/or was partially or totally responsible for paying

Plaintiff's wages

9. Defendants were Plaintiff's employer, as the term "employer" is defined by 29

U.S.C. §203 (d).

10. Defendants, Nomi, SBP Staffing, SBP, and Ms. Belo-Osagi, would conduct and/or

coordinate the training sessions that Plaintiff was required to attend.

11. Defendants, Nomi, SBP Staffing, SBP, and Ms. Belo-Osagi, would conduct and/or

coordinate schedules Plaintiff was required to work by instructing her on when and where to work

and the job duties they expected her to perform.

12. Defendants, SBP Staffing and SBP, issued payments for the Plaintiff performed.

13. Defendants, Nomi, SBP Staffing, SBP, and Ms. Belo-Osagi, established the policies

and procedures that Plaintiff was to follow in her work.

14. Defendants jointly employed Plaintiff within the meaning of 29 C.F.R. §791.2, as

they shared a common workforce with a common purpose and utilized a unified nucleus of control

and are therefore jointly and severally liable for all overtime wages, liquidated damages, attorneys'

fees, and costs awarded to Plaintiff.

15. Venue in this Court is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b)(ii) because

Defendants transact business in this District, employed the Plaintiff in this District, and because

most of the actions complained of occurring within this District.

16. This Court has original jurisdiction over Plaintiff's federal question claim under 28

U.S.C. §1331 and 26 U.S.C. §201, et seq.

FLSA Jurisdictional Allegations

17. Defendants regularly employed two or more employees for the relevant time that

handled goods or materials that traveled through interstate commerce or used instrumentalities of

interstate commerce, thus making Defendants' business an enterprise covered by the Fair Labor

Standards Act.

18. Defendant, Nomi, engaged in interstate commerce by contracting to provide

COVID testing and vaccination services for locations in different states, including in Florida.

19. Furthermore, Defendants engaged in interstate commerce through their regular

and routine submission of billings and receipt of payment involving out-of-state medical payors,

out-of-state insurers, and/or the United States government.

20. Defendants utilized computers, telephones, phone systems, syringes, swabs,

vaccines, testing kits, computers, computer networking equipment, software, vehicles, paper,

printer and copier toner, and other materials and supplies to engage in interstate commerce.

21. Defendants' annual gross revenues from this interstate commerce are believed to

exceed \$500,000.00 for the relevant time and/or exceed \$125,000 for each fiscal quarter.

Factual Allegations

22. Defendants provided COVID-19 testing and vaccination at various sites

throughout Florida using a workforce comprised almost entirely of independent contractors on

which they relied to carry out the duties they contractually obligated themselves to undertake in

Florida for various state, municipal, and local governmental entities.

23. Plaintiff worked for the Defendants from approximately August 2021, to August 25,

202.

24. To the extent that records exist regarding the exact dates of her employment exist,

those records are in the exclusive custody of the Defendants.

25. Plaintiff's work for Defendants was in, or so closely related to, the movement of

commerce that the Fair Labor Standards Act applies to Plaintiff's work for Defendants.

26. Plaintiff is a Registered Nurse ("RN") who worked for the Defendants as an "RN,"

at various locations in this District.

27. Plaintiff worked under the direct supervision of others employed by the Defendants,

including Craig Burey, Carolina Jiminez, Nelly, Dianalys, and Mimi Molina, just to name a few.

28. Plaintiff utilized the testing materials, vaccines, syringes, swabs, materials, and

supplies provided to her by the Defendants at the locations, dates, and times designed by

Defendants to perform the work that Defendants instructed her to perform and which they supervised and directed her to perform.

- 29. All conditions precedent were satisfied by Plaintiff and/or waived by Defendants.
- 30. Plaintiff retained the undersigned counsel and agreed to pay a reasonable fee for all services rendered.

Liability Allegations

- 31. Defendants assigned Plaintiff the work she was to perform, including where, when, and the hours she was to perform the work.
- 32. If Plaintiff was running late, she was required to inform the "site lead" who worked for the Defendants.
- 33. Defendants required Plaintiff to attend training sessions, identifying where and when she was to attend them, and provided the information and materials on which they would train her.
- 34. Plaintiff regularly and routinely worked more than 40 hours per week to perform services for and at the direction of Defendants.
- 35. Defendants required Plaintiff to log in and out of work through online time-tracking applications.

COUNT I – FLSA OVERTIME VIOLATION (AGAINST NOMI HEALTH, INC.)

Plaintiff, Elisabet Principe, reincorporates and realleges all preceding paragraphs as though set forth fully herein and further alleges as follows:

36. Defendant, Nomi, failed and refused to pay Plaintiff an overtime rate of one and

one-half times her regular hourly rate for all the overtime hours she worked beyond 40 hours in a

workweek as a non-exempt hourly employee in violation of the FLSA.

37. Defendant, Nomi engaged in a pattern and practice of willfully and intentionally

refusing to pay Plaintiff and its other employed registered nurses overtime wages of one and one-

half times their regular hourly rate(s) of pay for the overtime hours worked as non-exempt hourly

employees during the past three years.

38. Defendant, Nomi, was not only previously sued in federal court for failing to pay its

employees (misclassified as independent contractors) overtime and failing to correct its violation(s)

of the FLSA, it also has been sued in arbitration by over 75 other former employees. Yet, it still

failed to pay Plaintiff overtime wages.

39. Defendant Nomi either knew from prior experience or recklessly failed to

investigate whether its failure to pay Plaintiff overtime wages of one and one-half times her regular

hourly rate(s) of pay as a non-exempt hourly employee violated the FLSA and then failed to correct

its violations timely.

40. Plaintiff is entitled to a back pay award of overtime wages for all hours worked

beyond 40 hours in a workweek as a non-exempt hourly employee, plus an equal amount as

liquidated damages, plus all attorneys' fees and costs.

<u>COUNT II – FLSA OVERTIME VIOLATION</u> (AGAINST SBP STAFFING AND RECRUITING LLC)

Plaintiff, Elisabet Principe, reincorporates and realleges paragraphs 1 through 35 as though

set forth fully herein and further alleges as follows:

41. Defendant, SBP Staffing, failed and refused to pay Plaintiff an overtime rate of one

and one-half times her regular hourly rate for all the overtime hours he worked beyond 40 hours

in a workweek as a non-exempt hourly employee in violation of the FLSA.

42. Defendant, SBP Staffing engaged in a pattern and practice of willfully and

intentionally refusing to pay Plaintiff and its other employed registered nurses overtime wages of

one and one-half times her regular hourly rate(s) of pay for the overtime hours he worked as a non-

exempt hourly employee during the past three years.

43. Defendant, SBP Staffing, was sued previously for failing to pay its employees

(misclassified as independent contractors) overtime and failing to correct its violation(s) of the

FLSA. Yet, it still failed to pay Plaintiff overtime wages.

44. Defendant SBP Staffing either knew from prior experience or recklessly failed to

investigate whether its failure to pay Plaintiff overtime wages of one and one-half times her regular

hourly rate(s) of pay as a non-exempt hourly employee violated the FLSA and then failed to correct

its violations timely.

45. Plaintiff is entitled to a back pay award of overtime wages for all hours worked

beyond 40 hours in a workweek as a non-exempt hourly employee, plus an equal amount as

liquidated damages, plus all attorneys' fees and costs.

COUNT III – FLSA OVERTIME VIOLATION (AGAINST SB PORT VENTURES LLC)

Plaintiff, Elisabet Principe, reincorporates and realleges paragraphs 1 through 35 as though

set forth fully herein and further alleges as follows:

46. Defendant, SBP, failed and refused to pay Plaintiff an overtime rate of one and one-

half times her regular hourly rate for all the overtime hours he worked beyond 40 hours in a

workweek as a non-exempt hourly employee in violation of the FLSA.

47. Defendant, SBP engaged in a pattern and practice of willfully and intentionally

refusing to pay Plaintiff and its other employed registered nurses overtime wages of one and one-

half times her regular hourly rate(s) of pay for the overtime hours he worked as a non-exempt

hourly employee during the past three years.

48. Defendant, SBP, was sued previously for failing to pay its employees (misclassified

as independent contractors) overtime and failing to correct its violation(s) of the FLSA. Yet, it still

failed to pay Plaintiff overtime wages.

49. Defendant, SBP either knew from prior experience or recklessly failed to investigate

whether its failure to pay Plaintiff overtime wages of one and one-half times her regular hourly

rate(s) of pay as a non-exempt hourly employee violated the FLSA and then failed to correct its

violations timely.

50. Plaintiff is entitled to a back pay award of overtime wages for all hours worked

beyond 40 hours in a workweek as a non-exempt hourly employee, plus an equal amount as

liquidated damages, plus all attorneys' fees and costs.

COUNT IV – FLSA OVERTIME VIOLATION (AGAINST TRIXIE BELO-OSAGIE)

Plaintiff, Elisabet Principe, reincorporates and realleges paragraphs 1 through 35 as though

set forth fully herein and further alleges as follows:

51. Defendant, Ms. Belo-Osagi, failed and refused to pay Plaintiff an overtime rate of

one and one-half times her regular hourly rate for all the overtime hours he worked beyond 40

hours in a workweek as a non-exempt hourly employee in violation of the FLSA.

52. Defendant, Ms. Belo-Osagi engaged in a pattern and practice of willfully and

intentionally refusing to pay Plaintiff and her other employed registered nurses overtime wages of

one and one-half times her regular hourly rate(s) of pay for the overtime hours he worked as a non-

exempt hourly employee during the past three years.

53. Defendant, Ms. Belo-Osagi, was sued previously for failing to pay its employees

(misclassified as independent contractors) overtime and failing to correct its violation(s) of the

FLSA. Yet, she still failed to pay Plaintiff overtime wages.

54. Defendant Ms. Belo-Osagi either knew from prior experience or recklessly failed to

investigate whether her failure to pay Plaintiff overtime wages of one and one-half times her regular

hourly rate(s) of pay as a non-exempt hourly employee violated the FLSA and then failed to correct

her violations of the FLSA timely.

55. Plaintiff is entitled to a back pay award of overtime wages for all hours worked

beyond 40 hours in a workweek as a non-exempt hourly employee, plus an equal amount as

liquidated damages, plus all attorneys' fees and costs.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF (ALL COUNTS)

WHEREFORE Plaintiff, Elisabet Principe, demands the entry of a judgment in her favor and against Defendants, NoMi Health, Inc., SBP Staffing and Recruiting LLC, SB Port Ventures LLC, and Trixie Belo-Osagi, on all counts, jointly and severally after trial by jury, and as follows:

- a. That Plaintiff recover compensatory overtime wage damages and an equal amount of liquidated damages as provided under the law and in 29 U.S.C. § 216(b);
- That Plaintiff recover pre-judgment interest on all unpaid overtime wages if the Court does not award liquidated damages;
- c. That Plaintiff recover an award of reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses pursuant to the FLSA;
- d. That Plaintiff recover all interest allowed by law;
- e. That Defendants be Ordered to make Plaintiff whole by providing appropriate overtime pay and other benefits wrongly denied in an amount to be shown at trial and other affirmative relief;
- f. That the Court declare Defendants to be in willful violation of the overtime provisions of the FLSA; and
- g. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff, Elisabet Principe, demands a trial by jury of all issues so triable.

Respectfully submitted this 2nd day of October 2023,

s/Brian H. Pollock, Esq.
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